

Application No.: 09/491,304
Amendment dated February 13, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 16, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 39, 40, and 42-66 were pending in the application. Of those claims, claims 1-16, 39, 40, 42-61, and 63-65 have been allowed and claims 62 and 66 have been rejected.

By this Amendment, it is requested that claims 62 and 66 be cancelled without prejudice. Specifically, with respect to the cancellation of claims 62 and 66, Applicant expressly maintains the position that the present Section 112 rejection of claims 62 and 66 is improper and without merit. Nevertheless, by this Amendment claims 62 and 66 are cancelled for the sole purpose of allowing the present application to move to issuance since only allowed claims 1-16, 39, 40, 42-61, and 63-65 remain pending as a result of this Amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

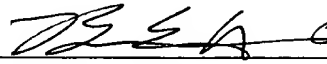
If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time, and any other fee required by this document, other than the issue fee, and not submitted herewith, should be

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charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

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